



### I Want to See You # 3

Hello everybody. Welcome to “Notes from the Presence.” This is the third of a series of articles on the seeing realm. Today we will be talking about one of my favorite subjects – worship and how it interacts with seeing Jesus.

Those who know me well, know my mind follows some strange and unconventional pathways. They will often say things to me like: "Dean you are thinking too much" or "can't you just stop trying to figure out the world and enjoy life for a moment?" I guess for the most part, I am never quite satisfied with the status quo. Because of this excessive personality trait, a few years ago I began to do a lot of thinking about the idea of “seeing God” and it brought me to some very provocative places in my theology. Part of my quandary, being that I love to worship God, was a verse in the book of John.

*God is spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth. (John 4:24)*

I began to wonder how we could worship in spirit. This led my mind on a rather uncharted journey and I had no idea where the end would be. I started to think thoughts such as: "if Jesus is a King and I want to go and worship Him, would I not first have to find His kingdom, and then His throne, and then bow before that throne and worship?" It all seemed to be hidden in a place I could not see. So, I then decided that my worship would have to be blind; I would be worshipping a King, at His throne, in His kingdom, but I wouldn't be able to see what I was doing. Sadly, this scenario seemed to be what most Christian people I knew had settled for and so I also settled here for a period of time. However, after a while, this place didn't seem right so I started looking around for some help in the Bible. Eventually, I stumbled on these verses:

*Now when He was asked by the Pharisees when the kingdom of God would come, He answered them and said, "the kingdom of God does not come with observation; nor will*

*they say, 'See here!' or 'See there!' For indeed, the kingdom of God is within you." (Luke 17:20–21 NKJV)*

The Greek word that is translated "within" here is the word "entos." It literally means "inside." If we insert it into the last sentence it would read: "For indeed, the kingdom of God is inside you." When I read these verses it was as if a light bulb went on in my heart. The kingdom of God might not be visible in the natural world, but it is very visible in the spiritual world, and this world is inside us.

What I am going to say next might startle you but I believe there is a reality we have literally been robbed of in our Christian experience. Each one of us has been created as a dual portal or if you like; a gateway. Our earthly bodies portal into this natural world, and our spirits portal into the spirit world. Our soul and mind is the go-between mechanism to draw these two worlds together. What I am suggesting based on the Scripture we just quoted, is that inside our human spirit, there is a portal or an entrance-way to another realm of existence. It is called the kingdom of God. The sad part is that few of us know it is there, and even fewer of us ever explore this world. I am going out on a limb here to say that heaven itself is right at our fingertips and we don't even know it exists. I believe we can learn to go to this place; to this kingdom, find Jesus there, talk with Him, walk with Him, worship Him, and interact with Him as you would with any other human being. I also believe we can find our Father God there, and the Holy Spirit. This world is more than just a concept, it is as real as any naturally visible item you can see right now. In fact, the natural, visible world was created out of the spirit realm making the spirit world the womb of everything we see and experience physically.

I then began to search the Scriptures and to my surprise, I started to find many passages supporting the idea of us seeing into the spiritual realm. Here is one example from the words of Jesus:

*"A little while, and you will no longer see Me; and again a little while, and you will see Me." Jesus knew that they wished to question Him, and He said to them, "Are you deliberating together about this, that I said, a little while and you will not see me, and again a little while, and you will see me?" "Whenever a woman is in labor she has pain, because her hour has come; but when she gives birth to the child, she no longer remembers the anguish because of the joy that the child has been born into the world. Therefore you too have grief now; but I will see you again, and your heart will rejoice, and no one will take your joy away from you. In that day you will not question Me about anything. Truly, truly, I say to you, if you ask the Father for anything in My name, He will give it to you. Until now you have asked for nothing in My name; ask and you will receive, so that your joy may be full." (John 16:16, 19, 21–24)*

Let's explore these verses for a minute. Most of the time when they are quoted, they are interpreted from the standpoint of Jesus going to the Cross, becoming no longer visible when He is dead, and then the disciples seeing Him again after His resurrection. I would beg to differ with this interpretation. My reasoning for this departure is found in Jesus words in verse 23-24:

*“In that day you will not question Me about anything. Truly, truly, I say to you, if you ask the Father for anything in My name, He will give it to you. Until now you have asked for nothing in My name; ask and you will receive, so that your joy may be full.”*

Jesus has been talking in context about a time when His disciples would no longer see Him, and then a time when He would once again be visible. Then at the end of His discourse, Jesus tells His disciples expressly when that time will be. He says it will be in a day when they won't have to question Him about anything anymore, but they will be able to go directly to the Father in His name. My question to you is: what “that day” is Jesus talking about here? My friends, “that day” is right here and now. Jesus was not referring to the short period of time He would be physically visible between His resurrection and ascension. He couldn't have been because during that time they could still talk directly and physically to Him. However, after His ascension the eternal dispensational clock turned its hands over to a new era, a time when we can come directly to the Father in His name. Now is the time we are able to once again "see Him" and in that seeing our joy is made full. Precious few of us believe this remarkable promise. Here is another Scripture:

*Father, I desire that they also, whom You have given Me, be with Me where I am, so that they may see My glory which you have given Me, for You loved Me before the foundation of the world. (John 17:24)*

This is part of a prayer Jesus prayed just before He went to the Cross. He was petitioning the Father that we could be where He is so that we could see His glory. My question is, where was Jesus going and where is He now? This is not a trick question; the answer is quite obvious. Jesus is in heaven or we might also say; Jesus is in the kingdom of heaven. Just a few paragraphs ago we learned that the kingdom of heaven is within us, so it would stand to reason that Jesus is within us as well. If we want to go see Him, we are going to have to find the door or passage way inside us that gives us access to the kingdom of God.

In light of these thoughts, here are some pertinent questions: Does such a door exist? Is there really a portal within us? If so, can we find it and then enter this place? Is it a literal place or just figurative? What does it look like? Do we have the ability to see

things there and experience the life of this realm? If we go there, will it be real, or will we just be making things up? Can we really come before the “throne of grace” as mentioned in Hebrews 4:16? Is there an open invitation for us to enter this realm?

In my next article, I will be talking about the revelation that John was given into the seeing realm and we will begin to try and answer some of the questions above.

Thanks for reading. Jesus is real and His eyes are like fire!